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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/612,946      | 07/10/2000  | Masato Ochiai        | CFO                 | 9916             |

5514 7590 04/07/2005

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| EXAMINER |
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STRANGE, AARON N

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2153

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 09/612,946             | OCHIAI ET AL.       |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | Aaron Strange          | 2153                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 30-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 30-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11162004, 01242005</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. It is noted that claim 36 is listed as "Previously Presented", when it has been amended. The claim has been treated as currently amended.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 30-39 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 30-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tonelli et al. (US 6,229,540) in view of Idehara (US 2001/0052995) in further view of Case et al. (RFC 1907).

5. With regard to claims 30, 36, and 38, Tonelli discloses a system for querying a network for devices and editing device information (e.g. location information), which is then validated (see Abstract). Tonelli shows:

A transmission unit (query engine 502) arranged to transmit device attribute information input by a user to search for a desired device (col. 19 lines 11-col. 20 line 11);

A reception unit arranged to receive, as search results, device information of at least one device satisfying the device attribute information transmitted by said transmission unit (fig. 51, col. 20 lines 54-57);

A display unit arranged to identifiable display whether or not location information of a device included in the search results received by the reception unit is registered (fig. 52, 576: "location", col. 20 lines 57-63, col. 21 lines 22-26);

A setting unit (edit function) arranged to set at least location information of a device whose location information is not registered, among devices included in the search results (col. 21 lines 1-3 and 12-30); and

A registration unit arranged to register location information set by said setting unit for devices whose location information is not registered (missing attributes can be entered by user and validated)(Col 21, Line 22-50).

Tonelli fails to specifically recite that the registration unit registers hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies or that the information is registered to the device whose location information is not registered.

Idehara teaches describing the location of a device using location information of plural hierarchies (Fig 25-27 and Par 148-156, esp Par 151). This allows devices to be located in a hierarchical manner, such as by place of business, departments, floors, etc. This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Tonelli

since it would have allowed the user to quickly and easily locate devices based on their location, and even use printers as facsimiles to reduce communication costs (Par 156).

While the combination of Tonelli and Idehara shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to specifically disclose that the registration information is registered to the device whose location information is not registered.

Case teaches registering changes location information in a device using the well known Simple network management Protocol (SNMP). SNMP has a specific command for setting location information (sysLocation) (Page s 4-5) that allows setting and storing location information in a network device and retrieval of that information by other devices. This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Tonelli and Idehara since it would have allowed the management system to update the device attributes that are stored in the device when a user makes changes or enters the hierarchical location information in the design program, ensuring that the devices contained correct information regarding their current location.

6. In referring to claim 31, Tonelli shows storage unit (database) arranged to store a map (templates) designated an area of a device to be located, wherein the display unit displays a location of a device include in the search results using the map information to be stored in the storage area (fig. 2, col. 6 lines 53-62).

7. In referring to claim 32, Tonelli shows the search results received include map designating area in which devices are included in the search results, and display unit

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displays a location of a device included in the search results using map information to be stored in database as design sheet (fig. 11, col. 8 lines 20-39).

8. In referring to claim 33, Tonelli shows registered devices on a map and unregistered devices outside the map (fig. 56, col. 22 lines 20-29).

9. In referring to claim 34, Tonelli shows the setting unit sets location of unregistered device in response to the device icon being outside the map (tree-list) to a location on the map (edit, drag and drop device icon, col. 21 lines 42-50).

10. In referring to claims 35, 37, and 39, which are similar to claim 30 above, Tonelli shows:

A transmission unit (query engine 502) arranged to transmit device attribute information input by a user to search for a desired device (col. 19 lines 11-col. 20 line 11);

A reception unit arranged to receive, as search results, device information of at least one device satisfying the device attribute information transmitted by said transmission unit (fig. 51, col. 20 lines 54-57);

A display unit arranged to identifiable display icons respectively corresponding to a device of the device information received at the search results by the reception unit (fig. 51, 576, 578, col. 21 lines 4-11);

A setting unit (drag and drop function) arranged to set location information of a device corresponding to an icon of the device, from among the displayed icons being designated at a location on a map (fig. 46 item 16, fig. 54, col. 21 line 62- col. 22 lines 7);

A registration unit arranged to register the location information set by said setting unit (missing attributes can be entered by user and validated)(Col 21, Line 22-50).

Tonelli fails to specifically recite that the registration unit registers hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies or that the information is registered to the device whose location information is not registered.

Idehara teaches describing the location of a device using location information of plural hierarchies (Fig 25-27 and Par 148-156, esp Par 151). This allows devices to be located in a hierarchical manner, such as by place of business, departments, floors, etc. This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Tonelli since it would have allowed the user to quickly and easily locate devices based on their location, and even use printers as facsimiles to reduce communication costs (Par 156).

While the combination of Tonelli and Idehara shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to specifically disclose that the registration information is registered to the device whose location information is not registered.

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### ***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

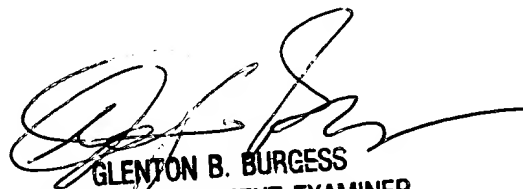


13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron Strange whose telephone number is 571-272-3959. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AS 3/30/2005

  
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